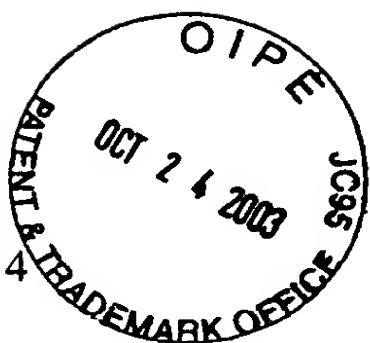


09/678,414



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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

David W. Carlson

Appln. No.: 09/678,414

Filed: October 2, 2000

For: METHOD FOR PLANARIZING A THIN  
FILM

Group Art Unit: 2823

Examiner: B. Kebede

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL  
REJECTION DATED JUNE 9, 2003

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection mailed June 9, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows: